

REMARKS

Claims 1–8 and 10–14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1–3 and 10–12 are amended, and claims 15 and 16 are canceled. No new matter is added.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); (c) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; (d) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (e) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

I. Rejection of Claims 15 and 16 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

By this amendment, claims 15 and 16 are canceled, rendering their rejection moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. By this Amendment, claims 2 and 3 are amended in light of the Examiner's helpful comments. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

III. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 1–4, 6–8, 11, and 13 under the written description requirement of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. By this amendment, step (i) of claims 1, 10, and 11 are amended to recite "...a solvent, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of organic solvents and water..." in view of the Examiner's helpful comments. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1–8 and 10–14 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Jeffrey R. Bousquet
Registration No. 57,771

JAO:JRB

Date: February 14, 2007

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--